4. The method of claim 1,

wherein the communications occur on both an inbound channel and an outbound channel, and

wherein the monitoring, comparing, and performing steps are done for both the inbound channel and the outbound channel.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the monitoring step comprises the step of

monitoring the parameter selected from a group of parameters consisting of a bit error rate, a received signal strength indication, a carrier-to-interference ratio, a carrier-to-noise ratio, a carrier-to-interference plus noise ratio, whether a hand-off succeeds, whether one of the communications is interrupted, latency, delay spread, neighboring power levels, a battery parameter, a capacity overload, and number of retries required to establish contact.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the adding step comprises the step of

recording in the communication difficulty report a value of at least one additional parameter monitored during the communications to help determine a cause for the communication difficulty.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising in the portable subscriber unit the steps of:

determining that the record of communication difficulty reports contains a number of communication difficulty reports, the number having reached a predetermined maximum; and

communicating the record of communication difficulty reports to the fixed portion in response to the number having reached the predetermined maximum.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising in the portable subscriber unit the steps of:

receiving a request from the fixed portion to monitor and report a signal quality when entering a pre-defined geographic zone; and

monitoring and reporting the signal quality when entering the pre-defined geographic zone.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising in the fixed portion of the wireless communication system the steps of:

generating a special report when the record of communication difficulty reports indicates that a capacity overload has occurred.

10. A portable subscriber unit in a two-way wireless communication system for detection and deferred reporting of a communication difficulty and a location at which the communication difficulty occurred, the portable subscriber unit comprising:

a receiver for receiving a first communication from a fixed portion of the two-way wireless communication system;

a processing system coupled to the receiver for processing the first communication; and

a transmitter coupled to the processing system for transmitting a second communication to the fixed portion,

wherein the processing system is programmed to:

monitor a parameter indicative of communication quality during at least one of the first and second communications,

compare the parameter with a predetermined threshold; and

when the communication quality deteriorates such that the parameter reaches the predetermined threshold:

determine geographic coordinates corresponding to the location at which the communication difficulty occurred; and

add a communication difficulty report to a record of communication difficulty reports stored in the processing system, the communication difficulty report identifying the parameter and the geographic coordinates, and

wherein the processing system is further programmed to:

receive a request for the record of communication difficulty reports from a fixed portion of the two-way wireless communication system; and

communicate the record of communication difficulty reports to the fixed portion in response to the request.

11. The portable subscriber unit of claim 10, wherein the processing system is further programmed to time-stamp the communication difficulty report.

12. The portable subscriber unit of claim 10, wherein the processing system is further programmed to

monitor the parameter selected from a group of parameters consisting of a bit error rate, a received signal strength indication, a carrier-to-interference ratio, a carrier-to-noise ratio, a carrier-to-interference plus noise ratio, whether a hand-off succeeds, whether one of the communications is interrupted, latency, delay spread, neighboring power levels, a battery parameter, a capacity overload, and number of retries required to establish contact.

13. The portable subscriber unit of claim 10, wherein the processing system is further programmed to

record in the communication difficulty report a value of at least one additional parameter monitored during the communications to help determine a cause for the communication difficulty.

14. The portable subscriber unit of claim 10, wherein the processing system is further programmed to:

determine that the record of communication difficulty reports contains a number of communication difficulty reports, the number having reached a predetermined maximum; and

communicate the record of communication difficulty reports to the fixed portion in response to the number having reached the predetermined maximum.

15. The portable subscriber unit of claim 10, wherein the processing system is further programmed to:

receive a request from the fixed portion to monitor and report a signal quality when entering a pre-defined geographic zone; and

monitor and report the signal quality when entering the pre-defined geographic zone.

* * * * *